

**From:** Samhael  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/15/02 6:43pm  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

208 50th Street NW

Bradenton, FL 34209-2880

January 15, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft

US Department of Justice, 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW

Washington, DC 20530-0001

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

I very much appreciate your strong leadership of DOJ over the past year.

In order for the recent settlement agreed to by Microsoft and the Justice Department to go through it is critical that you demonstrate uncompromising support for this agreement.

This settlement will end three years of litigation that have cost both sides dearly in time and resources. Outside interests would like this settlement eliminated because they claim it is unfair. The truth however is the settlement will give competitors never before offered access to Microsoft's secret code, including internal interfaces. Microsoft has also agreed to make it very easy for competitors to place their software on Microsoft operating systems.

While both sides, MS and the DOJ, are ready to settle there will be those, many with anti-Microsoft prejudice, who will try to have this settlement removed. I would like to state again that it is critical for you to show tenacious support for this settlement. Thank you.

Sincere regards,

Sam Espy